

SUMMARY OF SPECIAL TOWN MEETING 10/28/2019

Article 1 would appropriate \$2,650 to fund the costs of acquiring and administering promotional exams for the positions of Sergeant and Lieutenant in the Freetown Police Department. Suggested funding: tax levy.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 2 would appropriate \$8,837 to fund the cost of early retirement incentives in the Freetown Police Department. Suggested funding: tax levy.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 3 would appropriate \$1,100 to fund the cost of outsourcing the printing and mailing of the annual street census for 2020. Suggested funding: tax levy.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 4 would appropriate \$2,646 to fund a promotion within the Town Accountant's department. Suggested funding: tax levy.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 5 would appropriate \$18,600 to plan and prepare for the Town's Environmental Protection Agency fiscal year 2020 permit for stormwater management. Suggested funding: tax levy.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 6 would establish a revolving fund to allow the Police Department to create a firearm safety course for Town residents paid for entirely by fees charged for the program.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 7 would authorize the Water-Sewer Enterprise Fund to reimburse the Town's general fund a sum of \$9,976, for indirect costs associated with operating the department. This is a standard article, acted on annually.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 8 would transfer \$1,000 from the Cemetery Commission's part-time personnel budget to their own expenses budget. This money was saved by hiring a part-time worker later than expected.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 9 would adopt the BRAVE Act, passed by the Massachusetts legislature in late 2018, which provides for a residential tax exemption for Gold Star Families. This must be accepted at a Town Meeting before it is implemented at a municipal level.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 10 would allow the Town to install and lease out a telecommunications/radio tower at the site of the new Police Station.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 11 would transfer control of some landlocked swamp land between Route 140 and County Road, for conservation purposes. The Conservation Commission believes that the cost of auctioning this property would exceed the proceeds of the sale.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 12 would transfer control of some landlocked land abutting the transfer station to the Board of Selectmen, to act as an increased buffer for the transfer station. The Selectmen believe that the cost of auctioning this property would exceed the proceeds of the sale.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 13 would authorize the Treasurer to auction off certain Town-owned properties which are currently held for various municipal purposes or as the result of tax title foreclosures.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 14 would ratify the amended Rules and Regulations of the Cemetery Commission, which are on file with the Town Clerk's office.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 15 would re-define the Town's definition of "Building Coverage". The intent of the building coverage definition is to allow room for septic tanks; the structures that would be excluded from the definition are not a significant obstacle if a septic tank has to be installed or replaced.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 16 would remove Article 11, Section 11.29 H from the Town's by-laws on Planned Mixed-Use Overlay Districts (PMUD), "Density and Dimensional Requirements". The Planning Board's desire is to treat PMUD applications as they would for site plan review or special permit projects.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted

Article 17 would appropriate a sum of money, depending on amount of free cash remaining, to pay down the temporary debt on the new Police Station, saving the Town money in interest.

VOTE: Adopted By the Majority in amount of \$728,000. (Note: article amended to adopt only the first part of the article; no amount rescinded)

Article 18 would transfer the remaining funds left in free cash to the Town's Stabilization and Capital Stabilization funds, described as "rainy day funds" to support the Town during times of financial stress. This is a standard article, acted on annually.

VOTE: Unanimously Adopted funding Capital Stabilization in the amount of \$260,000 and Stabilization in the amount of \$9,731.